November 28, 1963
3:21 p.m.

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND SENATOR EASTLAND (to Senator Eastland)

LBJ: Jim...on this investigation...this Dallas thing...what does your Committee plan to do on it? I didn't ask you that and I intended to and had it on my mind and I got to talking and didn't do it.

JE: Well..we plan to hold hearings and just make a record of what the proof is..that is all. Show that this man was the assassin. To begin with we've had a great number of Senators that have come to us to request it..beginning with Morse...that it be done...now if you want it dropped ..we'll drop it...

LBJ: I...have the feeling...I don't know that I would..but we've got pretty strong states' rights question here and I've had some hesitancy to have a bunch of Congressional inquiries..and it might...

JE: Well you see ...you've got a fill-in to make it..

LBJ: Well, I know it but you don't have any law and it might set a precedence that you wouldn't want to have...I talked to some of the fellows about it day before yesterday..Russell was down here for lunch..

JE Well now there's one of them that's irked...

LBJ And, my thought would be this, if we could do it. We might get two members from each body...you see we're going to have three inquiries running as it is..

JE Well, I wouldn't want that..that wouldn't do..

LBJ And if we could have two Congressmen and two Senators..and maybe a Justice of the Supreme Court to take the FBI report and review it and write a report..and do anything they felt needed to be done..I think it would..this is a very explosive thing and it could be a very dangerous thing for the country...and a little publicity could just fan the flames. What would you think about ..if we could work it out of getting somebody from the Court and somebody from the House and somebody from the Senate and have a real high-level judiciary study of all the facts.

JE Well..it would suit me all right...Now you'd have...there's going to be some opposition on the Committee from Keating and I think Dirksen would be all right..I don't know..he's very strong for him...you see they've all

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JE Contd done the talking...

LBJ Well, if it is all right with you...I'm not worried about your Committee ...I know what you can handle...

JE Well, we can work it out...

LBJ You can handle your Committee..O.K. Much obliged. Bye

JE O.K. Bye

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PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH SENATOR EASTLAND NOVEMBER 28, 1963 3:21 p.m.

The President said: "...On this investigation...what does your Committee plan to do....?"

Seantor Eastland replied: ".....We plan to hold hearings and just make a record of ~~the~~ what the proof is....."

The President: "....But you don't have any law and it might set a precedent that you wouldn't want to have. I talked to some of the fellows about it day before yesterday....We might get two members from each body; you see we're going to have three inquiries running as it is...And if we could have two Congressmen and two Senators, and maybe a Justice of the Supreme Court to take the FBI report and review it and write a report and do anything they felt needed to be done.... What would you think about....getting somebody from the Court and somebody from the House and somebody from the Senate and have a real high-level judiciary study of all the facts?"

This plan was agreeable to Senator Eastland.

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